REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1-5, 8, and 12-18 are in the application of which claims 5 and 15 have been examined. New claims 16-18 have been added and all of these read on the elected subject matter. Claims 1-4, 8 and 12-14 stand withdrawn from consideration as directed to non-elected subject matter.

The specification has been amended in order to include sectional headings as requested on page 3 of the Official Action and also to update the status of the parent application which has now matured into a U.S. patent.

Claims 5 and 15 stand rejected as allegedly being "obvious" over "applicant's admission", the examiner referring to passages of the background of the invention portion of the specification of this application. This rejection is respectfully traversed because the passages referred to by the examiner are not suggestive of the subject matter defined by applicant's claims.

The claims of the present application are directed to the coordinated use of an alkanoyl L-carnitine together with a statin which combination, administered in a coordinated manner-- that is either by co-administration or by substantially simultaneous administration of one of the components or the other component, (see page 5, lines 7-14 of the specification) -- for the treatment of various conditions including treating abnormal lipid metabolism for lowering cholesterol and triglycerides associated with abnormal lipid metabolism. Applicant has found that the coordinated use of an alkanoyl L-carnitine together with a statin enables the clinician to achieve therapeutic results using lower doses of the statins thereby avoiding potential toxicity when the statins are administered in significant doses; see the discussion at page 5, line 3-6 of the specification.

While the effects of the statins generally and the effects of alkanoyl L-carnitines generally are known relative to lipid metabolism, there is no suggestion in the art to combine these two or administer them in a coordinated manner to mitigate the potentially toxic or unwanted side effect-causing results of high dosage statins and thereby allow the

clinician to use a lower dose of the statin while achieving the same or substantially the same therapeutic benefit.

The Official Action, especially on page 4, makes various arguments and suppositions with regard to combining the teachings of the prior art generally but fails to advance or cite any specific document that specifically describes or discloses the use of an alkanoyl L-carnitine in combination with a statin nor does the record of this application demonstrate that one skilled in the art would expect to be able to administer a lower dosage of statin yet maintain the same high therapeutic benefit by the coordinated administration of an alkanoyl L-carnitine. For these reasons the art-based rejection is inappropriate and should be withdrawn.

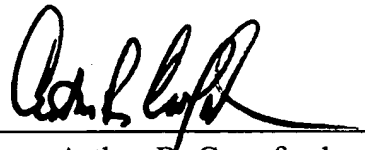
The examiner is authorized to cancel claims directed to non-elected subject matter upon the allowance of the remaining claims.

Reconsideration and favorable action are solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made**."

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Arthur R. Crawford
Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:pfc
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Attached copy of specification marked with changes.